



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending October 7, 2012

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Fair Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 4 days suitable for field work. Field activities for the week included filling silos, seeding for fall crops, and spreading lime. Fall plowing continues and is 57% complete, ahead of last year's 36% and ahead of the average of 49%.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending October 7, 2012

| Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| 0 | 3 | 84 | 13 |

Crop Progress: Corn is 89% at the mature stage; ahead of 62% at this time last year and the average of 74%. The harvest of corn for grain has begun and is 32% complete, ahead of last year's 13% but behind the average of 26%. The corn silage harvest continues at 92% complete, compared to 68% at this time last year and the average of 84%. Fifth-three percent of the barley crop has been planted, ahead of last year's 37% but behind the average of 58%. The barley crop is 29% emerged ahead of last year's 20% but behind the average of 34%. Winter wheat is now 55% planted, ahead of the last year's 20% and the average 38%. Winter wheat is 17% emerged ahead of last year's 7% but behind the average of 18%. Soybean harvest is underway and is 18% complete, compared to 5% last year and the average of 15%. The potato harvest is 92% complete, ahead of last year's 59% and the average of 78%. Fourth cutting of alfalfa is 89% complete compared with 73% at this time last year and the average of 80%. The apple harvest is 88% complete, ahead of 80% at this time last year and the average of 76%. Grape harvest now at 99% complete, compared to 64% at this time last year and the average of 49%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn conditions are; 2% very poor, 9% poor, 30% fair, 46% good, and 13% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 53% good, and 20% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 2% very poor, 29% poor, 39% fair, 22% good and 8% excellent.

Nationwide as of September 30, 2012: Above-average temperatures and little to no rainfall promoted a rapid harvest pace for any remaining crops in the West during the week; however, producers in some locations waited for increased

soil moisture before seeding their winter wheat crop. Conversely, storm systems brought beneficial moisture to portions of the eastern Corn Belt and southern Great Plains, with total accumulations exceeding 4 inches in portions of Illinois, Indiana, Oklahoma, and Texas during the week. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather across the Deep South promoted summer row crop harvesting, as well as small grain seeding.

Corn: By week's end, 94 percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the mature stage, 20 percentage points ahead of last year and 22 points ahead of the 5-year average. Aided by mild, mostly dry weather in the Midwest, harvest was advancing at one of the quickest paces on record. By September 30, producers had harvested 54 percent of the nation's corn crop, 36 percentage points ahead of last year and 34 points ahead of the 5-year average. In Indiana, high levels of aflatoxin left producers reluctant to store harvested corn in on-farm bins. Overall, 25 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week but 27 percentage points below the same time last year.

Soybeans: Leaf drop in this year's soybean crop continued to advance rapidly, evidenced by double-digit progress in 12 of the 18 estimating states during the week. Nationwide, 85 percent of the crop was at or beyond the leaf-dropping stage by September 30, fourteen percentage points ahead of last year and 8 points ahead of the 5-year average. With ample time for fieldwork, producers in over half of the major producing states harvested 13 percent or more of their crop during the week. By week's end, 41 percent of the soybean crop was harvested, 26 percentage points ahead of last year and 22 points ahead of the 5-year average. This represents one of the quickest harvest paces on record. Overall, 35 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 19 percentage points below the same time last year.

Winter Wheat: Where field conditions allowed, winter wheat seeding advanced rapidly during the week. By September 30, producers had sown 40 percent of the nation's intended 2013 acreage, 4 percentage points ahead of last year but 3 points behind the 5-year average. Unfavorably dry soils in portions of the Great Plains and Pacific Northwest led to delays in seeding and crop emergence. By week's end, 12 percent of the winter wheat crop was emerged, on par with last year but 4 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Weather Data For Week Ending October 7, 2012

| Station | Last Week Weather Summary | | | | | | April 1 - October 7, 2012 | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|---------|---------------|-------|------|---------------------------|-------|------|--------------|------|----------|
| | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50F | | Base 40F |
| | High | Low | Average | DFN | Total | Days | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN | Total |
| Northwest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erie | 75 | 48 | 62 | -1 | 1.68 | 4 | 16.16 | -5.57 | 55 | 2,982 | 576 | 4,574 |
| Franklin_AG | 75 | 40 | 58 | -3 | 1.21 | 5 | 17.93 | -6.03 | 73 | 2,734 | 499 | 4,323 |
| Meadville-Port | 71 | 44 | 59 | 0 | 1.90 | 4 | 20.18 | -3.70 | 64 | 2,818 | 769 | 4,422 |
| Clarion | 72 | 38 | 56 | -5 | 1.73 | 6 | 21.40 | -3.56 | 68 | 2,396 | 148 | 3,967 |
| Springboro | 72 | 38 | 56 | -7 | 2.00 | 4 | 20.46 | -0.73 | 66 | 2,430 | 59 | 3,984 |
| Warren | 74 | 41 | 58 | -2 | 0.93 | 4 | 19.53 | -4.51 | 69 | 2,562 | 397 | 4,135 |
| North Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bradford Region | 71 | 34 | 57 | 3 | 1.82 | 4 | 21.21 | -2.83 | 68 | 2,258 | 687 | 3,810 |
| Oswayo | 70 | 30 | 52 | -5 | 1.51 | 5 | 19.59 | -3.15 | 64 | 1,951 | 219 | 3,476 |
| Kane | 73 | 35 | 56 | 2 | 1.59 | 4 | 23.13 | -1.31 | 70 | 2,045 | 507 | 3,577 |
| Laporte | 71 | 42 | 56 | -5 | 2.52 | 4 | 30.80 | 8.67 | 74 | 2,216 | 1 | 3,779 |
| Lock Haven | 78 | 43 | 60 | -2 | 1.42 | 4 | 21.03 | -0.77 | 74 | 2,927 | 575 | 4,585 |
| Coudersport_1SW | 73 | 34 | 54 | -3 | 1.70 | 5 | 24.51 | 1.77 | 79 | 2,083 | 351 | 3,609 |
| Renovo | 76 | 43 | 60 | -1 | 2.22 | 4 | 26.19 | 4.39 | 70 | 2,854 | 502 | 4,503 |
| Ridgway | 75 | 34 | 57 | -1 | 2.42 | 4 | 19.55 | -4.26 | 71 | 2,395 | 616 | 3,969 |
| Stevenson Dam | 75 | 40 | 59 | 2 | 1.96 | 4 | 23.75 | -0.06 | 64 | 2,727 | 948 | 4,358 |
| Towanda | 75 | 41 | 58 | -2 | 1.31 | 4 | 22.62 | 4.21 | 70 | 2,629 | 398 | 4,220 |
| Wellsboro | 70 | 34 | 54 | -3 | 3.33 | 4 | 20.45 | 1.95 | 66 | 2,132 | 459 | 3,688 |
| Williamsport | 78 | 43 | 63 | 2 | 2.15 | 3 | 19.60 | -1.81 | 71 | 3,164 | 571 | 4,835 |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hawley | 74 | 39 | 56 | -2 | 3.97 | 3 | 21.86 | 0.95 | 66 | 2,338 | 424 | 3,906 |
| Wilkes-Barre/Sc | 77 | 44 | 61 | 1 | 2.16 | 3 | 21.46 | 1.15 | 72 | 2,995 | 536 | 4,624 |
| Susquehanna | 74 | 40 | 58 | 1 | 1.71 | 3 | 26.03 | 3.75 | 67 | 2,507 | 692 | 4,085 |
| West Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Butler | 75 | 38 | 57 | -4 | 1.39 | 4 | 19.12 | -3.53 | 64 | 2,757 | 439 | 4,384 |
| New Castle | 78 | 40 | 59 | -3 | 1.12 | 4 | 22.64 | 1.94 | 62 | 2,998 | 678 | 4,636 |
| Slippery Rock | 80 | 39 | 59 | -1 | 1.24 | 4 | 21.80 | -0.27 | 62 | 2,875 | 790 | 4,505 |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Altoona/Blair | 75 | 40 | 61 | -1 | 1.25 | 3 | 20.01 | 0.34 | 64 | 2,985 | 521 | 4,653 |
| DuBois | 73 | 40 | 58 | -2 | 1.88 | 4 | 18.02 | -4.75 | 61 | 2,564 | 431 | 4,168 |
| Lewistown | 80 | 43 | 62 | -2 | 1.79 | 3 | 21.86 | 0.71 | 78 | 3,134 | 429 | 4,826 |
| Middletown | 81 | 47 | 64 | 0 | 2.72 | 2 | 25.89 | 4.88 | 66 | 3,498 | 446 | 5,211 |
| Prince Gallitzi | 75 | 34 | 56 | -4 | 1.21 | 5 | 21.10 | -4.27 | 64 | 2,494 | 509 | 4,104 |
| Selinsgrove | 81 | 44 | 60 | -2 | 2.65 | 2 | 22.99 | 1.03 | 72 | 2,983 | 453 | 4,636 |
| State College | 74 | 42 | 59 | -3 | 1.45 | 4 | 22.45 | 2.56 | 77 | 2,901 | 470 | 4,559 |
| East Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allentown-Bethel | 80 | 45 | 64 | 2 | 2.08 | 3 | 24.69 | 1.67 | 67 | 3,252 | 462 | 4,938 |
| Lehighton | 74 | 45 | 59 | -3 | 6.20 | 2 | 30.99 | 8.13 | 72 | 2,738 | 48 | 4,391 |
| Matamoras | 75 | 43 | 60 | -2 | 2.74 | 3 | 26.56 | 3.45 | 85 | 2,816 | 384 | 4,472 |
| Mt_Pocono | 75 | 41 | 59 | 4 | 5.17 | 3 | 27.12 | 2.53 | 77 | 2,407 | 745 | 4,007 |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pittsburgh/Alle | 77 | 44 | 62 | 1 | 1.64 | 4 | 17.81 | -3.17 | 65 | 3,344 | 865 | 5,023 |
| Indiana_PA | 75 | 43 | 60 | -2 | 1.61 | 5 | 21.74 | -2.87 | 90 | 2,863 | 463 | 4,496 |
| Myersdale | 76 | 35 | 56 | -6 | 1.29 | 3 | 20.47 | -3.36 | 72 | 2,202 | -108 | 3,790 |
| Chalk_Hill | 75 | 34 | 54 | -10 | 1.66 | 3 | 22.97 | -0.28 | 72 | 2,257 | -386 | 3,852 |
| Pittsburgh Intl | 76 | 40 | 61 | -3 | 1.25 | 4 | 19.82 | 0.09 | 63 | 3,218 | 623 | 4,888 |
| Connellsville | 76 | 40 | 58 | -5 | 1.38 | 3 | 23.33 | 0.08 | 74 | 2,932 | 289 | 4,612 |
| Waynesburg | 76 | 38 | 58 | -4 | 1.23 | 3 | 17.79 | -3.76 | 59 | 2,873 | 466 | 4,529 |
| South Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Biglerville | 81 | 44 | 62 | -3 | 2.88 | 2 | 24.30 | 4.52 | 63 | 3,250 | 268 | 4,950 |
| Everett | 78 | 35 | 57 | -5 | 1.65 | 2 | 21.07 | 1.95 | 69 | 2,666 | 208 | 4,312 |
| Hanover | 80 | 42 | 61 | -5 | 3.65 | 2 | 24.93 | 5.15 | 67 | 3,185 | 203 | 4,874 |
| Harrisburg_AP | 81 | 45 | 64 | -1 | 1.72 | 2 | 25.32 | 4.31 | 66 | 3,535 | 476 | 5,250 |
| South Mountain | 74 | 40 | 57 | -5 | 2.49 | 2 | 28.24 | 8.57 | 71 | 2,617 | 160 | 4,254 |
| York | 80 | 41 | 63 | -3 | 3.61 | 2 | 23.06 | 1.88 | 69 | 3,191 | 221 | 4,865 |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green Lane | 80 | 46 | 62 | 0 | 2.92 | 2 | 27.92 | 5.62 | 66 | 3,220 | 550 | 4,920 |
| Hamburg | 79 | 45 | 61 | 1 | 4.92 | 3 | 27.59 | 1.94 | 72 | 3,148 | 711 | 4,835 |
| West_Chester | 82 | 42 | 61 | -4 | 1.77 | 3 | 24.41 | 0.20 | 50 | 3,186 | 221 | 4,864 |
| Lancaster | 81 | 44 | 63 | -1 | 1.79 | 3 | 21.13 | -1.30 | 56 | 3,333 | 512 | 5,022 |
| Neshaminy Falls | 84 | 46 | 64 | 1 | 1.07 | 2 | 23.83 | -1.99 | 69 | 3,339 | 552 | 5,057 |
| New Holland | 81 | 47 | 64 | 2 | 1.43 | 2 | 24.28 | 1.85 | 54 | 3,414 | 593 | 5,136 |
| Philadelphia | 85 | 55 | 68 | 3 | 1.25 | 3 | 20.95 | -0.93 | 49 | 3,909 | 669 | 5,648 |
| Philadelphia NE | 82 | 50 | 66 | -1 | 1.25 | 3 | 25.34 | 3.46 | 58 | 3,573 | 333 | 5,293 |
| Reading | 83 | 46 | 65 | 3 | 2.34 | 3 | 21.53 | -2.44 | 68 | 3,531 | 758 | 5,239 |
| Sellersville | 80 | 44 | 61 | -3 | 2.58 | 2 | 26.73 | 4.43 | 55 | 2,979 | 309 | 4,638 |
| Doylestown_AG | 80 | 46 | 63 | 0 | 1.48 | 3 | 24.56 | -1.26 | 59 | 3,348 | 561 | 5,051 |

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A. Behney

Adams County started the week in the 50's in the morning and rose to 70's daytime. Tuesday was 50's morning and 60's daytime, but raining and rained hard at times. Wednesday was 64 degrees morning, foggy, rainy and sun burned through by lunchtime and temperatures rose till 70's. Thursday was 68 morning temperature and rainy but cleared off till pm. Friday was higher 70's and sunny and humid. Saturday was high 40's to start then into the 60's. Sunday was colder in the lower 40's but only got to higher 40's and damp and chilly.

Corn continues to be harvested when field conditions permit, that includes some silage, high moisture and dry corn. Soybeans continue to be harvest also when field conditions permit. No hay was made as rain showers blessed us every day or every other day, with little chance for drying. Not much small grain seeded as producers are still awaiting corn and soybean acreages to be harvested before seeding.

Apple harvest continues. Most growers will be done in the next two weeks which is very unusual. Most producers are reporting nice crops and also are enjoying the higher prices. Overall, the crops are yielding pretty well as they are being harvested when the field conditions permit. There are still a lot of grain crops to be harvested. Upper Adams area is expecting more visitors this weekend for the final weekend of the National Apple Harvest Festival held near Arendtsville on Saturday and Sunday from 8 am - 6 pm.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Showers continued; some field work between showers. We received 1 inch of rainfall for the week.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Farmers are liming cropland. This has been an excellent year for corn silage. Many crop growers are starting to harvest beans and shelled corn.

LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeff Graybill

Soybean yields are excellent while corn is highly variable here in Lancaster County.

LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Zeigler

There was just enough rain to delay harvest of soybeans and corn. Manure pits are ready to be emptied in preparation for winter. Cover crops are being planted where fields have been harvested.

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust

Grape picking is almost complete in the Pennsylvania - New York counties along Lake Erie. The frost-freezes of March and April of this year lowered grape yields and in many vineyards it resulted in a total loss. Apple orchards experienced the same damages and lowered yields.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

Fall seeded grain is looking good as a result of the mild temperatures and moisture. Silo filling and seeding were the main field activities.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending October 7, 2012

| Crop | Current Week | Last Year | 5-Year Average |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Fall plowing | 57 | 36 | 49 |
| Corn, mature | 89 | 62 | 74 |
| Corn, harvested | 32 | 13 | 26 |
| Corn silage, harvested | 92 | 68 | 84 |
| Barley, planted | 53 | 37 | 58 |
| Barley, emerged | 29 | 20 | 34 |
| Winter wheat, planted | 55 | 20 | 38 |
| Winter wheat, emerged | 17 | 7 | 18 |
| Soybeans, harvested | 18 | 5 | 15 |
| Potatoes, harvested | 92 | 59 | 78 |
| Alfalfa, 4th cutting | 89 | 73 | 80 |
| Apples, harvested | 88 | 80 | 76 |
| Grapes, harvested | 99 | 64 | 49 |

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending October 7, 2012

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn | 2 | 9 | 30 | 46 | 13 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 6 | 21 | 53 | 20 |
| Pasture | 2 | 29 | 39 | 22 | 8 |

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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